

Covid Narrative May 24, 2021

The town will observe Memorial Day starting at 10 a.m., Monday (May 31) on the athletic fields at Scituate High School.

The ceremony will include speeches, dedication of the MIA Seat of Honor, the high school band, cheerleaders, football team and a visit from Rolling Thunder. A flyover is also possible.

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau said the town had just three new Covid cases over the past week, down from 10 new Covid cases from the previous week. The town's positivity rate is 1.1 percent over the last 14 days. Scituate is now "gray" on the state Covid map, which is the lowest rating the town could have.

Covid vaccinations are now offered for anyone aged 12 and older. Those aged 17 and under, must get the Pfizer vaccine. The Moderna vaccine has not been approved for those under 18.

The Marshfield Fairgrounds is open for drive-ups without an appointment.

Those who are physically unable to travel to get vaccinated can call 833-983-0485 to make an appointment for someone to come to the home to administer the vaccine.

Starting Saturday (May 29), nearly all Covid restrictions are being lifted including capacity limits, mask requirements, and social distancing restrictions. However, masks are still required for K-12 public school students when inside. They are not required for recess and outdoor activities. Masks are also required on public and private transportation and in health-care and congregate-care settings. For more details, visit mass.gov/covid.

Mr. Boudreau noted that businesses and venues can set their own mask requirements.

He said those, who have not been vaccinated, are advised to continue to wear masks indoors and to social distance but they are no longer required to do so.

The governor will lift the state of emergency June 15 which may impact the town's ability to hold remote meetings. The governor and legislature are planning to address that and also allowing restaurants to continue to offer outdoor dining without having to go through a lengthy approval process.

The Peggotty Beach parking lot is being striped temporarily to eliminate confusion. After the final coat is applied, permanent striping will take place. The entire parking lot was not paved, only the parts that were damaged from storms. FEMA grants are paying for the project.

The Cole Parkway marina project is complete, apart from a railing on the overlook. The new railing should be in by mid-June.

The contractor is doing clean-up on Cedar Point. Paving will take place in the fall.

Water main project moved from Bailey's Causeway to Utility Road this week.

Water restrictions are in effect. Watering is allowed between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. In-ground irrigation systems are allowed to run one day a week according to voting precinct.

The town used an average of 908,000 gallons per day over the past 7 days. That is up from 300,000 gallons a day from the previous week. The same time last year, the average was 795,000 gallons per day. The high - water usage is almost all attributed to watering lawns.

Boudreau praised all the public safety departments and agencies that worked tirelessly to locate the missing 78-year-old woman who tragically drowned Saturday in a boating accident at the mouth of the North River.

Superintendent of Schools Bill Burkhead said there was just one Covid case in the public schools over the past week, the lowest number to date. The schools have had a total of 227 cases this school year.

Masks are still required inside school buildings but not for outside school activities. Graduation details have been sent out to families.